

Registered on OTC

2590. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Over the Counter Exchanges of India (OTC) has requested the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to exempt the companies registered with it from the conditions of three years profit before sale through OTC; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has received such a request from the Over the Counter Exchange of India. SEBI would take a decision in the matter after taking into account all relevant factors.

Tax Evasion by Private/Public Sector companies

2591. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue has conducted any internal survey to find out tax evasion by big Private and Public Sector Companies by various accounting methods;

(b) if so, the details of the finding; and

(c) the action, if any, being taken to plug the loopholes in the Income Tax Act, 1961 so that these companies are also brought into the Tax Net?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

New Coal Mines

2592. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of new coal mines where the Central Coalfields Limited proposes mining at Balumath under Palamau district of Bihar;

(b) the quantum of coal reserve likely to be found in each of these mines; and

(c) the schemes formulated by the Government for preventing illegal mining of coal in the Balumath area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Presently, one mine i.e. Titariakhar OC is being worked near Balumath. Geological Reserve of Titariakhar mine is 40 million tonnes.

(c) Central Coalfields Ltd. have initiated the following steps for checking/preventing illegal mining :-

(i) Continuous plugging of rat holes in abandoned mines;

(ii) Dozing off the approach areas of such rat holes;

(iii) Carrying out surprise checks in the abandoned areas and also in illegal depots with the help of local police;

(iv) Apprehending people carrying coal from such depots;

(v) Maintaining constant liaison with District Authorities.

CCL has also constituted a Task force to suggest way and means to thwart attempts of illegal mining in CCL's leasehold area.

Coal Mines Depository

2893. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal mines depository was explored in Bagrakota areas of West Bengal many years back;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken steps to utilise this depository; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (d). As per information furnished by Geological Survey of India (GSI), the deposit of coal in Bagrakot area, Darjeeling District of West Bengal was surveyed by them through surface geological mapping in 1964-66 and 1976-78. The deposit is apparently of uneconomical nature as the seams are impersistent and the area is highly disturbed geologically. As such, no exploratory drilling was carried out and no attempt was made in estimating the resource potentiality.

Foreign Aid for Development Project of A.P.

2594. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total foreign assistance provided by the Union Government for the development of different projects in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) the present status of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Foreign assistance received by Government of India is passed on to the States in the form of Additional Central

Assistance (ACA). The ACA for externally aided projects released to Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs.570.38 crores and Rs.444.10 crores, respectively.

(b) The projects are at various stages of implementation. Normally, the project cycle for implementation is 5-7 years, therefore, while some projects at initial stage of implementation (e.g., A.P. First Referral Health System Project) there are other projects which are at the stage of completion (e.g., Environment Protection Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad).

Retirement Age of PSU's Employees

2595. SHRI THAKRE RAJABHAU :

SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :

Will the INDUSTRY MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of the interim report of Fifth Pay Commission, the Government considered to raise the retirement age of employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings from 58 to 60 years; and

(b) the decision taken by the Government thereon and the effective date thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). The employees of the Public Sector Enterprises are not within the Terms of Reference of the Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Public Sector Undertaking in Operation in A.P.

2596. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings which have been operating in Andhra Pradesh as on date, alongwith their names and locations;

(b) how many of such undertakings have been identified to be sick and referred to by Bureau of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction; and

(c) how the Government propose to revamp/rejuvenate these sick units and run them profitably?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) According to Public Enterprises survey 1994-95 there were 12 Central Public Sector Enterprises having their registered Office located in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Their name, alongwith the location of the registered Office are given below :-

Name of the P.S.E.	Location of the Regd. Office
1	2
1. Bharat Dynamics Ltd.	Hyderabad
2. Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels Ltd.	Visakhapatnam

1	2
3. CMC Ltd.	Hyderabad
4. Electronic Corpn. of India Ltd.	Hyderabad
5. Hindustan fluorocarbons Ltd.	Hyderabad
6. HMT Bearings Ltd.	Hyderabad
7. Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	Hyderabad
8. National Mineral Development Corpn. Ltd.	Hyderabad
9. Praga Tools Ltd.	Secunderabad
10. Rashriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.	Visakhapatnam
11. Southern Pesticides Corpn. Ltd.	Hyderabad
12. Sponge Iron India Ltd.	Hyderabad

(b) and (c). Two of them namely, Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd. and Southern Pesticides Corpn. Ltd. are sick and have been referred to Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction. BIFR has appointed Operating Agency of formulation of revival/rehabilitation package. The viable revival/rehabilitation proposal prepared by the Operating Agency is yet to be received.

Rebate on Coir Products

2597. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to announce rebate for coir products during 1996-97 as was done during previous year;

(b) if so, when the rebate is likely to be announced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). With a view to encourage consumption of coir yarn and coir products in the country, the Government have issued an order on 26th June, 1996 for the continuation of the Rebate Scheme on sale of Coir Yarn and Coir Products (excluding rubberised coir products) in the Coir Sector during the year 1996-97.

(c) Does not arise.

Achievement of P.M.R.Y.

2598. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the achievements made under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana for educated Unemployed Youths under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana till date in each State particularly in Nuapara and Kalahandi districts of Orissa; and

(b) the amount spent by the Union Government on the implementation of the scheme in each state so far?